

# Tinley Park Veteran's Commission

## Minutes of the November 8, 2023 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:04 p.m. Housekeeping items for the good of the order were announced. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**P=Present / E=Excused / A=Absent**

P – Dr. Doug Rasmussen, DC - Chairman	P - Colleen Sullivan, Trustee Liaison
P - Roxane Tyssen-Secretary	A - Pat Carr, Staff Liaison
A - Robert Bullard -US Sub Vets	P - Fred Cagle – VFW Commander
P - Robert Colby	P - Bruce Haffner
P - Chris Hansley-VFW Aux. Pres.	P - Jim Hudik
P - Jimmy Hunter	A - John Maher (Assoc.)
P - William McNellis, Commander Amer. Legion	P - Norm Pestlin
P - Georges Sanon	P - Don Tomich - MCL, Commandant
P - Paul Windich	P - Ken Wrezzes (Assoc.)

### Minutes of the last meeting:

- Minutes from October 11, 2023 meeting were distributed. Chris Hansley made the motion to accept the minutes as amended, Jimmy Hunter seconded, all approved.

### Remarks by Trustee Liaison:

- Trustee Sullivan updated the commission about having the Girl Scouts pass out the programs for the Veteran's Day event. She has not heard back from as of yet, she stated that if they are unable to participate, she will arrive early and assist with passing them out herself.
- She reminded the group of the date for the Commissioners Christmas party on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the convention center.
- Should anyone need a different sized shirt, they need to see her and she will order new sizes.

### Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- Nothing to report.

### Education in Art in Public Places:

- Commissioner Haffner discussed the display at the Tinley Park Public Library. All are encouraged to stop by and see it.

### Correspondence:

- Secretary Tyssen stated that there was no correspondence.

### Ongoing Business:

- All Service Breakfast:
  - Chairman Rasmussen gave a brief recap of the event.

- Veterans Day:
  - Chairman Rasmussen reviewed the timeline of the program with the Commission. Bob Welsh asked if the flag from the Sons of Union Soldiers group in Tinley Park can be added to flags presented at the event; it will be presented last in the line up.
- Cmdr. Cagle announced that the VFW, working with Craig Miller, has compiled a list of Tinley Park residents that have been killed in action from every conflict of war beginning with the Civil War.
  - Norm Pestlin will work on finding the places of burial for the names on this list.

#### **New Business:**

- There is a local soldier returning to Tinley Park from her duty. Her mother has reached out to us and has inquired about a welcome home ceremony. Robert Colby will reach out to the family and work with Roxane on the details.

#### **REPORTS:**

- Report from the VFW:
  - Cmdr. Cagle updated the commission on the schools the honor guard has been visiting.
  - The VFW will bring recruits from Great Lakes to the Post for Christmas Day.
  - The Post is holding a blood drive on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Please considering if you are able.

#### **VFW Auxiliary:**

- We are collecting plastic bottle caps (water/soda bottles, prescription bottles, etc.) which will be used to create a bench at the Veterans Home in Manteno.
- Report from the American Legion:
  - Sons of the Legion is working on getting the cadets from Great Lakes for Christmas.
  - January 17<sup>th</sup>, the American Legion National Commander will be visiting the Post. Anyone would like to meet him is welcome to visit.
  - The gun raffle is still going on and tickets are still available.
  - The Post has a new member who is involved with Disabled American Veterans (DAV) group. He will be present at all of their meetings to offer assistance to anyone who needs it.

#### **Sons of the Legion:**

- Jimmy Hunter announced that the Legion has been having the vets from Manteno for lunch on the second Monday of the month. He was told that there has been an outbreak of COVID at the facility and all events are currently on hold.
- Prairie State College:
  - Georges Sanon will continue to share reports for veterans events with the commission.
  - The Connect a Vet program was discussed.

#### **Announcements:**

- Georges Sanon announced that 200 or so troops have been deployed in response to the conflict in Israel. Please keep them in your prayers.
- The December meeting is canceled.

**Comments from the public:**

- Robert Colby stated that he was at Omaha Beach last week. He also visited at Pointe du Hoc. He encourages anyone who can, should definitely go.

Chairman Rasmussen asked for a motion to adjourn, Norm Pestlin made the motion, Robert Colby seconded, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Kallsen Center.

\*The military Banner Program can be found here:

[https://www.tinleypark.org/news\\_detail\\_T5\\_R241.php](https://www.tinleypark.org/news_detail_T5_R241.php)